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2.79 1921/22

PRICE LIST OF NURSERY STOCK YEARS 1921-22

JOHN ROBERTSON'S NURSERY

HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

I have about the usual supply of nursery stock to offer for delivery this coming spring. It is mostly in one and two year old sizes. I've been sold out in most lines, for each of the past three springs, so cannot furnish any very large or old stock. This is mainly a fruit farm; and the nursery stock is grown as a small side issue. When I started my orchard, and for some few years afterwards, I had to buy my trees and plants from other nurseries. Sometimes I got what I ordered, and again the stuff turned out to be most anything that came handy. Often it was poorly packed, and arrived too late in spring to have a fair show. These, and other disadvantages, caused me to start growing my own nursery stock for planting. Then neighbors and those looking the orchard over, wanted trees and plants of the various kinds which were doing well; so I've gradually developed the nursery till the last few years, when I've been trying to hold it at a balance. It is not my intention to ever grow nursery stock on a large scale. My plans at the beginning were to grow good stock, true to name, grow all parts of it on the place—nothing shipped in—of the very best varieties which had been proven in the orchard, and never let the business get beyond what I could personally supervise. These are still my plans.

I am still buying nursery stock, but in small quantities, of all new sorts of promise which are offered from time to time. These are tried out in the orchard, and proven as to worth and type, before any are propagated in the nursery. Many of the highly praised sorts turn out to be worthless when grown here. Some of the best plums and small fruits

I offer, have been gotten from our State Experiment Station at Brookings; and the Minnesota Experiment Station. In this I shall not give descriptions of varieties, but just the names, sizes and prices. Many of you have learned something of their qualities through reading *The Dakota Farmer*. I have appreciated your confidence, as shown by your custom in the past, and hope to continue being worthy of it.

VARIETIES TO PLANT.

In the family orchard one should plant a few of most of the sorts I list, but it is a mistake to plant many summer apples or crabs, unless you are situated where you can sell the surplus fruit. Plant more Wealthy than any other one sort; also Jewell's Winter for a later keeper. If your soil and location is good, and you are not above 4,000 feet elevation, you may grow the McIntosh Red, which is a very high grade late keeping apple; and the Ben Davis, which is the latest keeper of all. Plums, and small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, and raspberries, do well and come into bearing earlier than apple trees.

PLANTING.

Early spring is the time to plant in the dry northwest. Apple trees should be planted not less than thirty feet apart each way, so as to allow for spread of roots in search of moisture, as the tree grows larger without competition with the roots of other trees or plants. After a tree becomes established its roots always extend as far in all directions as the tree is high, often reaching much farther. As a rule it is a good method to plow the orchard site quite deeply, leaving a deep dead-furrow where each row of trees is to be. Dig wide and deep holes, especially if soil is hard. Use fine, moist surface soil to fill around roots, setting tree about same depth it grew in nursery, but leaving a basin of some extent around it to catch water from rains. This plan is especially good where there is a slope that allows water to run off. Do not allow basin to fill in by cultivation for a few years. When finally leveled up, the tree is some deeper than it was in nursery. All limbs of newly set trees should be cut back about two-thirds of last year's growth.

One row of small fruits may be planted between each two rows of trees, and dug out in say ten years, when the trees will be large enough to need all the moisture which falls between. Some little crop, like potatoes and garden stuff, may be grown in the orchard the first two or three years, but never plant anything close enough to take the moisture the trees may reach with their roots. Never allow weeds to grow at any time; you need the moisture for the trees. These rules

are mainly for growing fruits with the natural rainfall on dry subsoil land.

ORDER EARLY.

Do not wait until it is time to plant before ordering. I make a tabulated list of all stock on hand, and each order is booked and its quantity checked from this list as received. As I do not practice the common custom of buying at wholesale from other nurseries in lines I get short in, when a variety is all taken that is the end of it. I acknowledge each order when received, and if there is anything I can't fill on I mention it. This gives you a chance to get it somewhere else, if you are not too late. Then too, your order can be put up and sent, just a few days ahead of the rush. There are always plenty who wait till the last. The seasons vary, but as a rule we begin shipping about April 1st. Trees and shrubbery set during April generally do better than that set after May 15.

PARCEL POST.

Those living at a distance from the railroad can get very good service by parcel post. The limit of length and circumference of a package, combined, is now 84 inches. By cutting the tops back, as they should be anyway after planting, I can mail pretty fair sized stock. Those ordering this way should make allowances for postage.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

Five of one kind and ten of not over three varieties at ten rates. Not over five varieties allowed at fifty rates. Where long lists of one or two of each sort are wanted, they must be paid for at single rates. No orders booked or shipped until paid for in full. Send enough money to cover cost of sizes and sorts of your choice, saying if you will allow me to substitute other sizes and sorts for any I may be out of. It is not my intention to substitute without permission; but if you are very particular about this part, you will favor me by mentioning it. The plants are fully up to the sizes given. I do not charge you for a large plant and then send you a smaller one without returning the difference in price. We do not try to keep all the money we get hold of, or maybe keep you waiting another year till we grow something; but return any part due you, not later than time of shipping. Each one is notified by letter at time stock is sent, whether by mail or express. If there is anything the matter, in the way of complaint, when you receive stock, notify me at once. I do not replace "free" nor at "half price," but if I have reason to think there has been any mistake or fault at this end of the line, I will make it good, either in the price paid or in other stock.

Address all orders to JOHN ROBERTSON, Hot Springs, South Dakota, box 237.

VARIETIES AND PRICES.

APPLES AND CRABS—Named in the order of ripening: Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Hiberna, Wealthy, McIntosh Red, Jewell's Winter, and Ben Davis; and the Crabs: Whitney and Florence, which mature about September 1st.

1 to 2 feet size, 30c each; per ten \$2.75; per 100 \$25.00.

2 to 3 feet size, 45c each; per 10 \$4.00; per 100 \$35.00.

3 to 4 feet size, 60c each; per 10 \$5.00; per 100 \$45.00.

Have 70 Wealthy, 40 Jewell's Winter, and a few in other sorts, in 8 to 10 feet sizes, too large for shipping, but for local custom, at from 75c to \$1.00 each.

CHERRIES, Red or Black—2 to 3 feet, 30c each; \$2.50 per 10; 3 to 4 feet, 45c each; \$4.00 per 10.

PLUMS—I have the Opatá, Sapa, and Hanska to offer. The Opatá is the kind to plant most of, with Sapa next best. The Waneta is one of the best, but I've none left in nursery. This is all one year old stock, in sizes of from 1 to 2 feet. Price 50c each; \$4.50 per 10.

GOOSEBERRIES—The Carrie is the best single variety, and I have a good supply of these. The Josselyn is a larger berry, but am short in them. Price, strong 2 year old plants, 35c each; \$3.00 per 10; \$25.00 per 100.

CURRENTS—The Wilder, Diploma, Perfection, and Franco-German, are all good. Price of good 1 year old plants, 25c each; \$2.00 per 10.

RED RASPBERRIES—Latham and Sunbeam. are both of the hardiest known. The Latham (Minnesota No. 4) is the best all round single variety I've ever tried. Price 15c each; \$1.00 per 10; \$2.00 per 25; \$3.50 per 50; \$6.00 per 100.

STRAWBERRIES—The Minnesota, best spring bearer. Price 50c per 25; \$1.50 per 100. Progressive and Superb. everbearers. Price \$1.00 per 25; \$3.00 per 100.

ASPARAGUS—Price, 1 year old plants, 50c per 25; \$1.50 per 100.

RHUBARB—Large wine plant variety. Division roots, grown 1 year in nursery. Price, 25c each; \$2.00 per 10.

PURPLE AND WHITE LILACS—Price, strong plants, 25c each; \$2.00 per 10.

ROSES—Rosa Rugosa, and Tetonkaha. Both hardy without winter protection. Price 40c each; \$3.50 per 10.

NORTHWEST POPLAR—Claimed to be the hardiest and best of all poplars. I have a few of these in sizes from 3 to 6 feet, at prices of from 25c to 50c each.